



*City of Beverly, Massachusetts*

## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **RE: BEVERLY AWARDED TWO GRANTS FOR COASTAL RESILIENCE – OBEAR PARK AND THE BEVERLY PUMP STATION ON WATER STREET**

**BEVERLY, MA** – The City of Beverly was recently awarded two grants through the Office of Coastal Zone Management's (CZM) Coastal Resilience Grant program. The grants will fund a feasibility assessment and conceptual designs for green infrastructure at Obear Park, as well as a vulnerability assessment and feasibility study for the Beverly Pump Station on Water Street. The grant awards were for \$58,340, and \$135,445, respectively.

Both grants will fund the first phases of high priority coastal resilience projects. The feasibility study and conceptual designs at Obear Park is the first step to install natural protections and improvements necessary to stop erosion and degradation of the park. This process will involve working with an engineering consultant and collaborating with numerous stakeholders, including the Ryal Side Civic Association and neighbors, the Harbor Management Authority, and Salem Sound Coastwatch. The study will investigate potential living shoreline techniques, culvert alterations, and relocation and retrofits to existing park facilities.

The vulnerability assessment and feasibility study for the Beverly Pump Station on Water Street is also the first step to install long-term protections and improvements to the pump station, and will assess an essential piece of infrastructure that is currently at risk from flooding and storm events. The analysis will evaluate alternatives to address both short- and long-term risks of flooding and sea level rise. The project is built upon collaboration between the City and the South Essex Sewerage District (SESD), as well as engagement with adjacent property owners and the broader community.

Both projects include community engagement and education, and will be used as case studies for similar projects in Beverly and the surrounding area. "We are thrilled to receive these grants and to move these critical projects forward," said Mayor Michael Cahill. "We want to thank our partners at Coastal Zone Management and the Baker-Polito Administration and emphasize our continued commitment to improving coastal resilience in Beverly."